

To Whom It May Concern:

In reference to Proposed Senate Bill Number 497: An act concerning Municipal advertising costs and pet adoptions.

In Chapter 435 C.G.S. 22-332 subsection (a) states: If the owner or keeper of any such dog or other animal is unknown, the officer shall immediately tag or employ such other suitable means of identification of the dog or other animal as may be approved by the Chief Animal Control Officer and shall promptly cause a description of such dog or other animal to be published once in the lost and found column of a newspaper having a circulation in such town.

The current cost for Enfield Animal Control is \$25.56 for a one-day three line ad in the lost in found section. This is typically for one animal; on occasion we can place two animals within three or four lines to keep the costs down.

Since July 1, 2008 we (Enfield Animal Control) have spent \$485.64 on advertising animals in the local paper (Journal Inquirer).

Since most of the animals we advertise are not redeemed by their owners we lose any cost associated with advertising. This is not a cost effective system.

The current fee to adopt an animal from all municipal animal shelters in the State of Connecticut is five dollars (\$5.00). This fee is set by Chapter 435 C.G.S. 22-332 subsection (C).

I have been in the animal control field for nine years and this fee has never been changed; yet the cost of advertising an animal has gone from fifteen dollars (\$15.00) to the current cost of twenty five dollars and fifty six cents (\$25.56). This fee has increased the past nine years on an annual basis on July 1st.

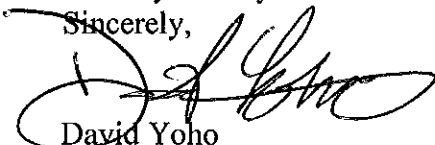
I would like to have the Connecticut General Statute 22-332 subsection (C) to be amended to allow animal control officers to recover any cost incurred in association with the adoption of animals.

I have spoken with other area town animal control officers and they also would like to see this bill passed.

I highly recommend this bill to be taking into consideration.

Thank you for you time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Yoho', is written over the printed name.

David Yoho
Enfield Animal Control